



Dear Child Care and Early Learning Provider:

We are writing to you today to talk about H1N1 influenza.

As you well know, H1N1 influenza has arrived! It is nothing to fear. It is, however, something to be aware of and knowledgeable for the children you care for and teach. We have enclosed a flyer that explains how you can protect yourself, your staff and the children in your care. We have also enclosed the poster from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). This poster may be useful on your front door as a way to remind families the importance of keeping their child home when they are ill. We have also included contact information for your local public health department, because the best way to beat H1N1 and the regular flu is to have your entire staff vaccinated and all the children, too.

Many settings will offer H1N1 vaccinations, including doctor's offices, schools, workplaces, pharmacies, and public health agencies. After mid-October, check these sources for information about vaccination sites near you.

- Your health care provider
- Your local health department <http://www.doh.wa.gov/LHJMap/LHJMap.htm>
- A retail pharmacy

You may also be able to find information in your local newspaper or through television or radio.

We are offering two live broadcasts in English and Spanish: "Prevent Influenza in Early Education and Child Care" featuring a Pediatrician and Child Care Health Consultant Nurse. You will be able to watch these on your computer, Friday, October 30 at 1pm in English and 2pm in Spanish, and Saturday, October 31 at 10am in English and 11 am in Spanish. To find the link to these broadcasts:

- Log onto <http://groups.google.com>
- Type "CSHEL" into the Google Groups box and click on "Search Groups"
- You will see a list of matches and click on "c-shel"
- The directions for accessing the "Prevent Influenza in Early Education and Child Care" sessions will be on the group home page.

Thank you so much for all the great work you do with the youngest of Washington's children!

Sincerely,

Peggy D. King, BSN and Danette Glassy, MD, Co-Chairs

C-SHEL, Coalition for Safety and Health in Early Learning